

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1 and 2; and add new Claims 7-12 as follows.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A device for opening and closing a passage comprising:

a door having a door shaft which becomes the center of rotation, and also having a plate-shaped door portion for opening and closing an opening portion; and a case having a bearing hole for pivotally holding the door shaft and also having the opening portion, wherein

the opening portion of the device for opening and closing the passage is a passage in which air flows, and an elastic packing member disposed between the door shaft and the bearing hole is attached to at least one of the door shaft and the bearing hole; and

the elastic packing member is also attached directly to the plate-shaped door portion.

2. (currently amended) A device for opening and closing a passage according to claim 1, wherein the door shaft is provided with a large diameter shaft portion and a small diameter shaft portion, and the packing member is directly attached to an outer surface of only the small diameter shaft portion.

3. (previously presented) A device for opening and closing a passage according to claim 1, wherein the packing member is attached to the door and one

piece of the packing member covers one face of the door portion and one portion of the door shaft in the circumferential direction.

4. (previously presented) A device for opening and closing a passage according to claim 1, wherein a cooling heat exchanger and a heating heat exchanger are arranged in the case.

5. (previously presented) A device for opening and closing a passage according to claim 4, wherein the door is an air mixing door for adjusting a ratio of a volume of air cooled by the cooling heat exchanger and a volume of air heated by the heating heat exchanger.

6. (previously presented) A device for opening and closing a passage according to claim 1, wherein the elastic packing member is attached to the at least one of the door shaft and the bearing hole at least at a position circumferentially spaced from the plate-shaped door.

7. (new) A device for opening and closing a passage comprising:
a door, which consists of a cantilever door, having a plate-shaped door portion for opening and closing an opening portion provided on a case, and a door shaft formed on an end of the plate-shaped door portion;

a bearing hole provided on the case in such a manner that the door shaft is held pivotally by the case and is surrounded by the bearing hole via a clearance along an axial direction of the door shaft; and

an elastic packing member, which extends in the axial direction of the door shaft, for reducing leakage of air flowing into the opening portion via the clearance between the door shaft and the bearing hole, is attached to at least one of an outer periphery of the door shaft and an inner periphery of the bearing hole surrounding the door shaft, at least on a central portion along the axial direction of the door shaft.

8. (new) A device for opening and closing a passage according to claim 7, wherein the case has a shaft portion for pivotally holding the door shaft;

the door shaft is provided on one end side with a large diameter shaft portion and is provided on the other end side with a small diameter shaft portion;

the shaft portion is inserted from the case into the large diameter shaft portion, and the small diameter shaft portion extends through the case in such a manner that the door shaft is held pivotally by the case;

both the large diameter shaft portion and the small shaft portion are surrounded by the bearing hole via the clearance along the axial direction of the door shaft; and

the packing member is attached directly onto only the small diameter shaft portion side.

9. (new) A device for opening and closing a passage according to claim 7, wherein the packing member covers one face of the door, and the packing member also covers a circumferential portion of the door shaft, which is located inside the bearing hole.

10. (new) An air conditioner for vehicle use including a device for opening and closing a passage described in claim 7, wherein a heat exchanger for cooling air to generate cooled air and a heat exchanger for heating air to generate hot air are arranged in the case of the device for opening and closing a passage, and the opening of the device for opening and closing a passage is a passage in which said cooled air circulates.

11. (new) An air conditioner for vehicle use according to claim 10, wherein the door of the device for opening and closing a passage is an air mixing door for adjusting a ratio of the volume of cooled air cooled by the heat exchanger for cooling to the volume of the hot air heated by the heat exchanger for heating.

12. (new) A device for opening and closing a passage comprising:
a door having a door shaft which becomes the center of rotation, and also having a plate-shaped door portion for opening and closing an opening portion; and a case having a bearing hole for pivotally holding the door shaft and also having the opening portion, wherein

the opening portion of the device for opening and closing the passage is a passage in which air flows, and an elastic packing member disposed between the door shaft and the bearing hole is attached to at least one of the door shaft and the bearing hole; and

the plate-shaped door portion extends radially from the door shaft and has first and second ends spaced axially along the door shaft, the elastic member being disposed between the first and second ends of the plate-shaped door portion.